

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 216909 TOSEC 250039

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

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DRAFTED BY S/S:PBRIDGES:GK

APPROVED BY S/S:PBRIDGES

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 216909 TOSEC 250039

NODIS

CHEROKEE

FOLLOWING REPEAT LUSAKA 2236 ACTION SECSTATE 1 SEP QUOTE

S E C R E T LUSAKA 2236

NODIS

CHEROKEE

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, RH, WA, ZA

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S LETTER TO KAUNDA

REF: (A) STATE 216314, (B) LUSAKA 2219, (C) LUSAKA 2227,
(D) LUSAKA 2213, (E) LUSAKA 2235

1. AS REPORTED REFTTEL (B), KAUNDA LEFT FOR UP COUNTRY TOUR
THIS MORNING. I DELIVERED LETTER TO CHONA WHO PROMISED TO
SEE THAT IT GETS TO PRESIDENT. HE COULD NOT BE CERTAIN,
HOWEVER, THAT WE WOULD HAVE A REPLY BEFORE SUNDAY.

2. CHONA GAVE HIS OWN PRELIMINARY COMMENTS ALONG LINES HE
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AND PRESIDENT HAD MADE TO ROGERS/SCHAUFLE EARLIER. NAMIBIA

PROPOSAL MEETS MOST PRESSING SWAPO CONCERNS. CHONA EMPHASIZED IMPORTANCE OF RELEASE OF PRISONERS NOTING PHRASE IN SECRETARY'S LETTER "WHOM SWAPO WISHES." HE AGAIN MADE REFERENCE TO THE IMPORTANCE OF MOVING UP THE DATE OF INDEPENDENCE, ALTHOUGH HE AGREED THAT THIS WAS SOMETHING THAT COULD PROBABLY BE WORKED OUT AT THE CONFERENCE AND WOULD NOT BE A PRECONDITION TO IT. ON RHODESIA, CHONA FELT THE ONLY PROBLEM WAS IMPLEMENTATION OF THE THREE STEPS AND THAT THE MOST SIGNIFICANT OF THEM WAS THE FIRST. ONCE WITHDRAWAL OF THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT HAD OCCURRED, THE TANGIBLE EVIDENCE OF PROGRESS WHICH PRESIDENT KAUNDA REQUIRED (REFTEL C) WOULD BE PRESENT AND CHONA FELT BOTH PRESIDENTS KAUNDA AND NYERERE WOULD SUPPORT A MOVE AWAY FROM THE ARMED STRUGGLE.

3. CHONA TOOK NOTE OF THE SECRETARY'S REQUEST FOR ASSURANCES THAT NO NEW, UNANTICIPATED CONDITIONS WOULD BE RAISED, NOTING HE FULLY UNDERSTOOD THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS.

4. CHONA SEEMS UNCONCERNED THAT NKOMO IS NOT PRESENT. THE MEETING IN MAPUTO (REFTEL D) WAS CALLED AT MACHEL'S INSTANCE. CHONA SAID THAT IT WAS POSSIBLE THAT A FURTHER MEETING WOULD BE HELD NEXT WEEK OF NATIONALIST LEADERS AND GAVE THE IMPRESSION THAT THE FRONT-LINE PRESIDENTS MIGHT BE INVOLVED. COMMENT: THE MEETING NOW GOING ON IN MAPUTO IS CLEARLY SEPARATE FROM MEETING OF NATIONALIST LEADERS TO WHICH CHONA IS REFERRING. INFORMATION SUPPLIED REFTEL (E) TO THE EFFECT THAT NKOMO NOW IN NAIROBI AND PLANNING TO RETURN TO LUSAKA PRIOR TO ONWARD TRIP TO SALISBURY AT REQUEST OF RHODESIAN GOVERNMENT MAY EXPLAIN ZAMBIAN'S RELAXED PSOTION OF NKOMO'S WHEREABOUTS BUT IT DOES NOT EXPLAIN PLANS FOR MEETING OF NATIONALIST LEADERS.

LOW

UNQTE. ROBINSON

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TOSEC, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, INDEPENDENCE, GOVERNMENT REFORM, CAT-C, CHEROKEE 09/01/76, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, MINISTE RIAL VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE216909
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: PBRIDGES:GK
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Film Number: N760006-0589
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 2
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t197609100/aaaadicz.tel
Line Count: 94
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Reference: 76 STATE 216314, 76 LUSAKA 2219, 76 LUSAKA 2227, 76 LUSAKA 2213, 76 LUSAKA 2235
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <01 JUL 2004 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <13 OCT 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: LOCK1
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SECRETARY'S LETTER TO KAUNDA
TAGS: PFOR, PSDC, PDEV, RH, WA, ZA, US, (KAUNDA, KENNETH DAVID)
To: SECRETARY
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006